

Schools Forum Meeting Agenda

Thursday, 6 May 2021 at 9.00 am to be held via Zoom conference facility

Mau A Ste	art Biddles (Chair & Primary Academy Head) Ken Kies (Primary Academy Head) urice Codd (Primary Maintained Governor) adam Morris (Primary Maintained Head) eve Margetts (Secondary Academy Head) r Timmins (Secondary Academy Governor) Jayne Jones (Early Years) Dan Hallam (Post 16)	Lisa Finn (Vice-Chair & Secondary Academy Rep) Tim Stephens (Primary Academy Governor) Jim Piper (Primary Academy Deputy Head) Alex Newton (Secondary Maintained Head) Clive Star (Secondary Academy Governor) Mike Lock (Special Schools Head) Steven Hulme (PRU Head)
1.	Apologies/Changes to Membership	
2.	Minutes of the last meeting	(Pages 2 - 6)
3.	Election of Vice-Chair	
4.	Financial Report	(Pages 7 - 10)

5. School Allocations 2021-22

ESFA Visit and Safety Valve request

7. Update report from Higher Needs Recovery Group (Pages 20 - 34)
 8. Update on Early Years budget (Pages 35 - 37)

(Pages 11 - 13)

(Pages 14 - 19)

- 9. Elective Home Education proposals and decisions (Pages 38 39)
- 10. **AOB**

6.

- 11. Items for next meeting
- 12. Future meeting dates

For information relating to this meeting or to request a copy in another format or language please contact: **Mike Freeman, Clerk 01803 208261 Michael.freeman@torbay.gov.uk**

Agenda Item 2



Minutes of the Schools Forum

11th March 2021

-: Present :-

Stewart Biddles (Chairman), Primary Academy Head; Lisa Finn (Vice-Chair) Secondary Academy Rep; Adam Morris, Primary Maintained Head; Ken Kies, Primary Academy Head; Tim Stephens, Primary Academy Governor; Alex Newton, Secondary Maintained Head; Steve Margetts, Secondary Academy Head; Clive Star; Secondary Academy Rep; Jim Piper, Primary Academy Deputy Head; Dan Hallam, Post 16; Mike Lock, Special Schools Head; and Jayne Jones, Early Years Rep

-: Also in attendance :-

Rachael Williams, Assistant Director for Education, Learning and Skills; Rob Parr, Principal Accountant; Dan Hamer, Head of Vulnerable Pupils; Sarah White, Early Years Finance and Business Manager; Sheena Wright, Senior Early Years Advisor; Michael Freeman, Clerk

1. Apologies/Changes to Membership

Apologies were received from Steven Hulme. Rachael explained that Martin Phillips and Nancy Meehan could not attend due to an upcoming Offsted quality assurance visit.

After many years of service, Maurice Codd has made the decision to step down from Schools Forum due to other commitments. Members wished Maurice well for the future and gave thanks for his dedication to Schools Forum over the years.

In line with the Terms of Reference, a replacement for Maurice will now be sought from the Maintained Primary Governor sector. Officers will begin the process of seeking nominations for this position shortly.

Action – Clerk to write to Maurice on behalf of the Forum.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Members looked at the minutes from January's meeting, these were agreed as a true and accurate reflection of the meeting.

3. Election of Chair of Schools Forum

As per the Forum Terms of reference (discussed in further detail in Item 5) Stewarts term of office as Chair of Forum has expired, And whilst happy to continue in this role, nominations for Chair were sought by the clerk outside of this meeting.

No nominations were received, therefore it was proposed by Lisa Finn and seconded by the rest of Forum that Stewart be re-elected to Chair.

Election of Vice-Chair will take place at the next meeting, members were invited to submit nominations to the Clerk prior to this.

4. **Primary representation**

As members terms of office have recently expired, officers have written to Primary colleagues seeking representations from their sector. No nominations have been received, therefore all current Primary members have been re-elected to Schools Forum.

5. Term of Reference

Following discussion at January's meeting, members were presented with an updated Terms of Reference. Members made the following points:

It was felt that item 6, *No Academy shall be represented by more than one person.....* should be changed to No Academy Trust shall be represented by more than one person.

It was mentioned that other Forums have had issues with disruptive members and the question was asked whether the Local Authority has the power to end an individual's membership. Whilst not a problem in Torbay, Stewart felt that item 40 of the ToR covers this scenario adequately.

Action – Clerk to update terms of Reference.

6. Financial Report

Rachael presented to members an updated financial report. It was pleasing to note that the deficit has reduced by approx. £560k, thanks in part to the COVID prevention fund being received into the Dedicated Schools Grant. This has been used to offset some salaries for officers involved with ongoing COVID work. There has also been a reduction in commissioned services coming out of the Higher Needs block. Rachael gave thanks to the hard work of Play Torbay, who have recently secure £90k of lottery funding.

The expected demand on the system has not yet been seen, members noted that there have been less families moving into area than anticipated, and some bespoke packages have now been ceased due to the current situation. Rachael explained that whilst any reduction in the current deficit can be seen as positive news, it was important to note that savings made this year are an anomaly and this is not expected to be a long term position, demand on the Higher Needs block will continue as we are beginning to see the expected increase in RSAs (Requests for Statutory Assessment).

Members noted the findings of the report.

7. Early Years Funding

The Forum heard from Sarah White, Early Years Business and Finance Manager, on the Early Years census and how current funding is calculated. Sarah explained that up until autumn 2020, the budget was set using a formula of 5/12 of 2019 census numbers and 7/12 of 2020 census numbers. This was in line with DfE guidance to continue to fund EY providers as if the pandemic was not happening. However, since January 2021, the budget is now calculated on a ratio of 9/12 of 2020 census numbers.

This had led to an approximate £100k of negative adjustment in the budget, although this is subject to change based on duplicate cross checking with neighbouring LAs. It is anticipated that this negative adjustment will lead to an estimated £83k overspend in the EY budget. This is an area of concern as lower attendance figures throughout the pandemic could lead to significant underfunding in next year's budget, as there will potentially be more children requiring funding that was have been budgeted for. Sarah assured members that the DfE are aware of this issue, and after meeting with regional colleagues this is a problem for all LAs nationwide.

Sarah then presented some principles for future spend management, and asked members to discuss the following:

The hourly rate for 2, 3 and 4 year olds is calculated and paid to providers based on termly headcount submissions, officers will then calculate a final budget position for the EY block partway through the year. Any surplus in the budget will be used to enhance the next deprivation budget allowing for an increased per-child rate. Any deficit will be deducted from the deprivation budget, leading to providers being paid only the guaranteed minimum per-child rate. These principles were put to vote as follows:

To accept the principles of future spend management outlined above:

For: 12 Against: 0 **Unanimous** Abstain: 0

Despite concerns, Members were in agreement that these proposals would go some way to mitigating impact on the budget moving forward. It was requested that regular updates on the situation be shared with members at every Schools Forum.

8. COVID Prevention funding

Rachael was pleased to announce that the LA has now agreed to an extra £250k of additional funding to mitigate against COVID. Members welcomed this news, and asked how this funding is intended to be spent. It was proposed by Rachael that this is discussed at the Higher Needs Recovery Group.

Rachael clarified that as this is a limited amount of money it will be used only in the Primary and Secondary sectors, bespoke packages will continue to be used for Post 16 children.

Members were asked to vote on the following:

To accept the additional £250k funding:

For: 12 Against: 0 Unanimous Abstain: 0

To delegate the allocation of funding to the Higher Needs Recovery Group:

For: 12	
Against: 0	Unanimous
Abstain: 0	

Members expressed a wish to act quickly on this, Rachael explained that the next HNRG meeting is on the 22nd March, and it's anticipated that money will be allocated to schools in May & June.

9. Elective Home Education

Rachael gave some context to the current high number of EHE children, and the current measures in place around recalling funds. This was following concerns raised by Alex outside of the Forum. Rachael explained that the process of recalling funding for EHE children was within the Higher Needs recovery plan agreed by Schools Forum. This recovery plan has been approved by both the DfE and the ESFA, and the LA is confident that due process is being followed.

Colleagues agreed with the points raised by Alex, namely that schools felt the current system of recalling funding for places where children have opted to be EHE is unfair, as these places are taken up by other children with no additional funding in place. Whilst accepting that the consequences of the current system are unintentional, members felt that the impact it is having on Schools is unsustainable and requested that alternative proposals be discussed, such as invoicing schools for work undertaken by the EHE team on a per case basis.

Rachael thanked members for their comments. She felt it important to note that the current system was put in place with the genuine intent of improving outcomes for

children, but acknowledged that now was the right time to review the procedures in place. Alex and Dan Hamer agreed to meet outside of Schools Forum to discuss possible solutions, and share these with colleagues at the next meeting.

10. Torbay Promise Update

The Forum heard from Steve Margetts on the Torbay Promise initiative. Steve explained the concept of supporting families throughout their education (a 'conception to college' approach) based on data produced by the Local Education Board on two areas of Torbay with higher numbers of children going into care. The initiative will offer a wider array of support to children and families covering both Health and Education needs, with the aim of preventing future problems before they happen. Steve has been liaising with colleagues from the Early Help team and a task group has now been established, whose first task is to set up a pilot scheme involving a small number of families.

Members were excited at the prospect of being able to tackle problems earlier in a child's education. They gave their thanks to Steve for his hard work on this and offered their support where needed.

11. Any Other Business

Rachael has been approached by the Municipal Journal to contribute to an article on Higher Needs Funding.

Stewart proposed that June's School Forum be postponed one week with a view to potentially holding the meeting in person. However, Rachael explained that it was unlikely that the LA will be holding face to face meetings by this point, and so the meeting will go ahead on the original date (17th June) as arranged.

12. Items for next meeting

- Election of Vice-Chair
- Update on Early Years budget
- Schools allocations 2021-22

13. Future meeting dates

- Thursday 6th May, 09:00
- Thursday 17th June, 09:00
- Thursday 14th October, 09:00
- Thursday 25th November, 09:00

TORBAY COUNCIL

Agenda Item 4

Financial Report Schools Forum 6th May 2021

Introduction

The following report contains a detailed breakdown of the projected position of the Local Area for 2020/2021. The report enables members to note the outturn position and the significant factors contributing toward the spend. The report covers the following items

- Final Outturn Position 2020/2021
- DSG Allocation Budget 2021/2022
- Contextual information regarding Early Years Block
- Contextual information regarding Higher Needs Block
- Position and Recommendations

Final Outturn Position 2020/2021

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funded activities have overspent by £2.048m.

The following table details the main areas of both over and under spend.

Budget Heading	Budget	Final Actuals	Over / <mark>(Under)</mark> Spend
Early Years 2, 3 & 4 yr old payments – PVI's & Academies	£5.638m	£5.533m	(£105k)
Estimated budget clawback from ESFA for changes in Early Ye between Jan 20 (9/12ths funding) & Jan 21 (3/12ths funding)	ears pupil num	nbers	£98k
Early Years – ALFEY	£265k	£282k	£17k
Early Years – Pupil Premium & Disability Access Fund	£130k	£84k	(£46k)
Early Years – 5% retained element	£364k	£333k	(£31k)
Reclaim from ESFA of Early Years pupil no. adjustments between Jan 19 and Jan 20 higher than anticipated.			£45k
Joint Funded Placements	£600k	£585k	(£15k)
Recovery of funding from schools for Excluded Pupils, Medical Tuition Service and Elective Home Education	(£386k)	(£150k)	£236k
Independent Special School Fees	£2.685m	£2.754m	£69k
Other packages for EHCP pupils and SEND personal budgets	£1.125m	£1.375m	£250k
Payments to / recoupment from other authorities for Special School places	(£230k)	(£224k)	£6k
Medical Tuition Service / Virtual School / Hospital Tuition / Vulnerable Students Team	£1.404m	£1.305m	(£99k)
School contingencies (Rates, planned pupil growth, NQT induction etc)	£261k	£169k	(£92k)
EHCP in-year adjustments (see separate paper for details)	£350k	£311k	(£39k)
Special Schools / High Needs in-year adjustments (see separate paper for details)	£600k	£671k	£71k
School Intervention / Commissioning (includes School Improvement Grant)	£142k	£91k	(£51k)
Business Support	£190k	£161k	(£29k)
Other - including Admissions, EAL / Travellers, Advisory Teach	ners		(£73k)
Delay in opening of St Michael's Primary, no ESFA recoupmen	t of funds in 2	0/21.	(£217k)
Contribution from LA Covid grants towards salary costs of emp	loyees funded	by DSG	(£195k)

High Needs in-year pupil number adjustment– Net import of pu reduced from 103 to 95 pupils	pils from othe	er authorities	£48k
Deficit DSG budget set for 20/21	(£2.2m)	£0	£2.2m

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Total – Forecast Outturn Position 20/21			£2.048m

This overspend is in line with the position reported to School Forum in March 2021. It should be noted that the deficit position has been reduced by £195k by a contribution from the LA Covid Fund.

The overall position of the Dedicated Schools Grant taking previous deficits into account at the end of **2020/2021 is an overspend of £ 5.826m**

This cumulative deficit is 5.6% of the overall annual DSG allocation.

The two areas of significant volatility are within the Early Years Block and Higher Needs Block.

Early Years Block

Please see separate paper on funding process for early years during the pandemic.

Higher Needs Block

Torbay continues to have a greater number of children requiring additional support up to and including a special school place than the funds available in the higher needs block can meet. The following table demonstrates the final position on the EHCP allocation of funding above $\pounds 6k$.

Education, Health & Care Plan Fundir	ng for 19/20 & 2	20/21	
	19/20	20/21	Increase /
			(Decrease)
Number of pupils with EHCP	444	470	26.00
Number of FTE's with EHCP	401	429	28.00
	£	£	£
Funding below £6k allocated through school formula elements	2,383,233	2,554,879	171,646
Funding above £6k allocated as a top-up per eligible pupil	1,929,955	2,122,040	192,085
EHCP Contingency	500,000	350,000	(150,000)
In-Year adjustments			
April	89,037	16,946	(72,091)
May	(2,510)	(104)	2,406
June	21,302	(11,737)	(33,039)
July	12,688	4,062	(8,626)
August	4,248	42,398	38,150
September	84,471	115,109	30,638
October	32,871	72,833	39,962
November	24,573	50,539	25,966
December	35,172	16,915	(18,257)
January	9,789	(11,583)	(21,372)
February	5,291	15,276	9,985
March	591	0	(591)
Total - In-Year adjustments	317,523	310,654	
Total - (underspend) / overspend	(182,477)	(39,346)	

The following table demonstrates the numbers of Special School Commissioned Placements and Adjustments.

	Combe	Combe	Mayfield	Mayfield	Mayfield	Brunel	Burton	B & B	Totals	Totals
	Pafford	Pafford	School	Chestnut	Total	SEMH	AP	Total		£
Number of places - January 20	252		217	33	250	56	50	106.00	608.00	
Number of pupils - January 20	248		216	33	249	47	60	107.00	604.00	
Number of places - September 20	262		231	32	263	56	55	111.00	636.00	
Initial Place led funding		2,578,333			2,575,833	560,000	529,167	1.089.167		6,243,333
Initial Pupil led funding		981,746			2,315,603	680,090	634,380	1,314,470		4,611,819
Initial pupil specific additional funding		25,362			54,176	51,967	004,000	51,967		131,505
Other funding - Outreach / exclusions / rent		20,002			235,921	51,307	0	0		235,921
Pupil Premium		153,025			152,205	62,553		62,553		367,783
Total initial funding		3,738,466			5,333,738	1,354,610	1,163,547	2,518,157		11,590,361
In-Year adjustments	Pupils	Funding	Mayfield	Chestnut	Funding	SEMH	AP	Funding	Pupils	Funding
	i upilo	£	Pupils	Pupils	£	Pupils	Pupils	£	i upiis	£
April	248	22,645	216	34	15,691	49	64	182,065	611	220,401
May	248	0	210	34	0	50	63	3,572	611	3,572
June	248	4,607	210	34	0	51	65	38,013	614	42,620
July	248	0	210	34	(10,285)	53	50	(97,241)	600	(107,526
August	248	0	215	34	0	53	50	0	600	(101,020)
September	258	38,944	213	31	37,741	49	43	(76,936)	608	(251
October	257	(226)	227	30	(6,030)	50	44	12,522	608	6,266
November	256	3,788	227	30	0	50	44	0	607	3,788
December	257	7,854	225	30	(4,897)	51	50	25,969	613	28,926
January	255	(1,578)	225	32	6,030	50	50	(3,618)	612	834
February	255	504	225	33	2,010	50	50	0	613	2,514
March	256	2,429	228	30	(1,179)	51	51	2,087	616	3,337
Total In -year pupil / place led adjustments		78,967			39,081			86,433		204,481
Enhanced Provision (in-year changes in pupil numbers)										30,655
Excluded Pupils / 6th Day Provision Mayfield (Sept - Dec)										38,000
Excluded Pupils / 6th Day Provision Mayfield or other provision	sion (Jan - Mar)									28,500
Additional outreach funding for Mayfield										17,868
Enhanced transition - Yr 14 Student - Mayfield										12,000
Occombe House - additional rent										13,000
In-year pupil specific additional funding		60,465			155,212			110,581		326,258
Total - In-Year adjustments		139,432			194,293			197,014		670,762
Special School / High Needs contingency budget										600,000
Total (underspend) / overspend										70,762

DSG Budget Allocation 2021/2022

School Forum are provided with an overview of the school allocations for 2021/2022.

Position

The final outturn position of the Local Area continues to be of significant concern. The budget for 2021/2022 remains volatile and we need to continue to take all actions to mitigate spend.

The cumulative overspend of the DSG is now £5.826m

Recommendation and Decisions

It is requested that Schools Forum:

1. Note the final outturn position and continue to work with the Local Authority through the mechanism of the Higher Needs Recovery Group to enact mitigations to reduce budget spend in the year 2021/2022.

Rachael Williams Assistant Director Education, Learning and Skills

PRIMARY & SECONDARY - SCHOOL ALLOCATIONS FOR 21/22

School Name	Pupil Numbers Oct 20	AWPU	School Specific Lump Sum	Deprivation FSM / IDACI	Low Prior Attainment	Mobility	PFI	Split Sites	NNDR General Rates	English as an Additional Language
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
All Saints Babbacombe C of E Primary School	206	637,502	116,728	99,517	64,768	0			4,019	3,188
Barton Hill Academy	600	1,856,802	116,728	502,788	265,658	0		12,042	9,421	11,903
Brixham C of E Primary School	210	649,881	116,728	80,529	58,843	0			4,466	2,502
Cockington Primary School	573	1,773,246	116,728	359,944	191,406	0			10,957	14,781
Collaton St. Mary C of E Primary School	216	668,449	116,728	88,653	47,884	0			5,478	0
Curledge Street Academy	413	1,278,099	116,728	258,538	173,058	0		8,289	9,523	9,538
Eden Park Primary Academy	386	1,194,543	116,728	192,611	128,971	1,641		7,747	6,810	3,870
Ellacombe Academy	351	1,086,229	116,728	301,715	96,202	3,639		7,045	5,939	12,546
Furzeham Primary and Nursery School	267	826,277	116,728	117,659	79,351	0			32,204	1,848
Galmpton C of E Primary School	216	668,449	116,728	50,742	47,906	0			2,645	0
Hayes School	393	1,216,205	116,728	242,554	145,953	0			5,683	8,241
Homelands Primary School	206	637,502	116,728	119,593	55,556	0	63,894		27,392	3,156
Ilsham Academy	168	519,905	116,728	58,045	17,969	0		3,372	1,818	4,420
Kings Ash Academy	359	1,110,987	116,728	347,547	146,539	12,004			13,210	5,047
Oldway Primary School	636	1,968,210	116,728	210,556	130,111	0			15,310	4,436
Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Primary School	151	467,295	116,728	104,104	60,037	3,514			7,219	9,009
Preston Primary School	328	1,015,052	116,728	97,670	111,296	0			6,605	1,270
Priory Roman Catholic Primary School	91	281,615	116,728	61,691	32,498	2,265			2,790	1,771
Roselands Primary School	329	1,018,146	116,728	114,534	85,525	0			7,834	632
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary and Nursery School	210	649,881	116,728	105,706	75,532	0		4,215	3,046	8,175
Sherwell Valley Primary School	642	1,986,778	116,728	210,029	184,994	0			66,560	3,799
Shiphay Learning Academy	419	1,296,667	116,728	141,302	136,654	0			7,270	3,156
St Michael's C of E Academy	47	145,388	67,702	23,391	0	0	0	0	0	768
St. Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School	73	225,911	116,728	38,569	22,808	0			4,367	0
St. Margaret's Academy	411	1,271,909	116,728	245,696	155,447	0			6,042	1,902
Si Marychurch C of E Primary School	304	940,780	116,728	162,907	113,390	0			5,222	3,161
School	306	946,969	116,728	150,520	81,044	0			6,400	7,696
Upton St. James Primary	101	312,562	116,728	81,075	27,398	1,730		2,027	1,547	1,281
Warberry C of E Primary School	413	1,278,099	116,728	196,288	76,172	0			6,501	10,203
Watcombe Primary School	206	637,502	116,728		87,359	0			18,089	1,275
White Rock Primary School	596	1,844,423	116,728		160,373	0			15,053	3,842
TOTAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS	9,827	30,411,260	3,569,540	5,133,124	3,060,700	24,793	63,894	44,736	319,420	143,414
Brixham Academy	933	4,257,235	116,728	498,969	373,697	0			34,560	7,358
Churston Ferrers Academy	762	3,496,024	116,728	160,117	822	0			37,888	0
Paignton Community & Sports Academy	1407	6,423,845	116,728	964,506	657,565	0		213,683	77,824	11,772
St Cuthbert Mayne Joint Catholic and C of E School	797	3,638,796	116,728	648,307	337,525	0			28,160	13,258
The Spires College	1008	4,586,201	116,728	778,187	396,414	0	250,714	36,460	52,298	22,117
Torquay Academy	1266	5,795,218	116,728	918,055	503,697	0			53,760	19,145
Torquay Boys' Academy	803	3,674,397	116,728	152,310	22,141	0			44,585	2,943
Torquay Grammar School for Girls	759	3,477,393	116,728	142,280	888	0			38,144	5,901
TOTAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS	7,735	35,349,107	933,823	4,262,731	2,292,750	0	250,714	250,143	367,219	82,494
TOTAL PRIMARY & SECONDARY	17,562	65,760,367	4,503,363	9,395,855	5,353,451	24,793	314,609	294,879	686,639	225,908

PRIMARY & SECONDARY - SCHOOL ALL

School Name	2021/22 Total Formula Allocation	21/22 Funding to meet minimums £4,180 P & £5,415 S	21/22 Revised Formula Allocation	2021/22 Total MFG Allocation	Total School Allocation Formula or MFG	Total School Allocation Determined by	Total Funding per pupil	Nursery Funding	EHCP Above £6k	Enhanced Provision	De-delegation Excludes Academies	Pupil Premium	2021/22 Total School Funding
	£	£	£	£	£			£	£	£	£	£	£
All Saints Babbacombe C of E Primary School	925,722	0	925,722	907,319	925,722	Formula	4,494		19,493		0	65,835	1,011,050
Barton Hill Academy	2,775,341	0	2,775,341	2,992,163	2,992,163	MFG	4,987	245,363	108,261	68,330	0	423,190	3,837,307
Brixham C of E Primary School	912,948		912,948	909,499	912,948	Formula	4,347	79,528	47,962		0	76,940	1,117,378
Cockington Primary School	2,467,062		2,467,062	2,457,615	2,467,062	Formula	4,306		70,128		0	274,585	2,811,775
Collaton St. Mary C of E Primary School	927,192		927,192	921,644	927,192	Formula	4,293	4.40, 500	47,104		0	65,490	1,039,786
Curledge Street Academy	1,853,772	0	1,853,772	1,832,016	1,853,772	Formula	4,489	140,508	113,499		0	224,200	2,331,978
Eden Park Primary Academy	1,652,920	0	1,652,920	1,651,437	1,652,920	Formula	4,282	108,616	61,508		0	188,505	2,011,549
Ellacombe Academy	1,630,043	0	1,630,043	1,641,569	1,641,569	MFG	4,677	147,270	42,698		0	242,065	2,073,602
Furzeham Primary and Nursery School	1,174,067	0	1,174,067	1,167,699	1,174,067	Formula	4,397	69,533	11,739		(7,008)	91,560	1,339,891
Galmpton C of E Primary School	886,470	19,055	905,525	879,723	905,525	Formula	4,192		45,513		0	45,005	996,043
Hayes School	1,735,363	0	1,735,363	1,717,547	1,735,363	Formula	4,416	92,691	43,337		0	197,610	2,069,001
Homelands Primary School	1,023,820	0	1,023,820	1,024,801	1,024,801	MFG	4,975	77,252	29,501		(6,117)	94,805	1,220,241
Ilsham Academy	722,256	0	722,256	715,332	722,256	Formula	4,299		6,895		0	46,040	775,191
Kings Ash Academy	1,752,061	0	1,752,061	1,753,825	1,753,825	MFG	4,885	139,964	66,139		0	330,695	2,290,623
Oldway Primary School	2,445,352	228,438	2,673,790	2,562,740	2,673,790	Formula	4,204	121,622	138,289		0	193,745	3,127,446
Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Primary School	767,906	0	767,906	752,500	767,906	Formula	5,085		56,940		0	96,115	920,961
Preston Primary School	1,348,620	29,025	1,377,645	1,325,040	1,377,645	Formula	4,200		67,911	177,520	0	99,045	1,722,121
Priory Roman Catholic Primary School	499,358		499,358	502,539	502,539	MFG	5,522		16,142		0	58,490	577,172
Roselands Primary School	1,343,400	39,654	1,383,054	1,329,582	1,383,054	Formula	4,204	04.500	84,308		0	110,495	1,577,857
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary and Nursery School	963,282	0	963,282	959,361	963,282	Formula	4,587	64,523	58,171		0	93,700	1,179,676
Sherwell Valley Primary School	2,568,887	181,233	2,750,120	2,639,133	2,750,120	Formula	4,284	195,252	53,410		(16,173)	160,915	3,143,524
Shiphay Learning Academy	1,701,776	56,914	1,758,690	1,684,203	1,758,690	Formula	4,197	126,394	44,029		0	122,875	2,051,988
St Michael's C of E Academy	237,249	0	237,249	0	237,249	Formula	5,050				0	0	237,249
St. Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School	408,383	0	408,383	407,717	408,383	Formula	5,594		1,238		0	36,315	445,935
St. Margaret's Academy	1,797,724	0	1,797,724	1,756,122	1,797,724	Formula	4,374		73,713	71,244	0	173,160	2,115,841
S. Marychurch C of E Primary School	1,342,188	0	1,342,188	1,325,021	1,342,188	Formula	4,415	50,200	39,719		0	118,600	1,550,707
Brre C of E Primary School	1,309,357	0	1,309,357	1,300,247	1,309,357	Formula	4,279	101,850	37,984		0	106,840	1,556,030
Upton St. James Primary	544,347	0	544,347	543,438	544,347	Formula	5,390		20,195		0	70,905	635,447
Marberry C of E Primary School	1,683,990		1,732,841	1,663,171	1,732,841	Formula	4,196	177,166	37,502		0	138,705	2,086,214
Watcombe Primary School	1,034,440		1,034,440	1,022,502	1,034,440	Formula	5,022	91,378	86,900		(5,619)	129,430	1,336,529
White Rock Primary School	2,335,587	170,746	2,506,333	2,402,958	2,506,333	Formula	4,205	175,074	116,509		(15,348)	210,470	2,993,038
TOTAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS	42,770,882	773,916	43,544,798	42,748,461	43,779,071			2,204,184	1,646,738	317,094	(50,265)	4,286,330	<u>52,183,152</u>
						_ ·							
Brixham Academy	5,288,546		5,288,546	5,249,894	5,288,546	Formula	5,668		71,236	191,115	0	236,510	5,787,407
Churston Ferrers Academy	3,811,580	,	4,164,118	4,127,863	4,164,118	Formula	5,465		17,645	110.000	0	66,865	4,248,628
Paignton Community & Sports Academy	8,465,922		8,465,922	8,485,699	8,485,699	MFG	6,031		191,064	110,390	0	480,645	9,267,799
St Cuthbert Mayne Joint Catholic and C of E School	4,782,774		4,782,774	4,750,117	4,782,774	Formula	6,001		41,277		(21,092)	295,480	5,098,439
The Spires College	6,239,119		6,239,119	6,243,584	6,243,584	MFG	6,194		107,797	177,032	(27,005)	333,010	6,834,418
Torquay Academy	7,406,603		7,406,603	7,287,709	7,406,603	Formula	5,850		122,652		0	423,190	7,952,444
Torquay Boys' Academy	4,013,104	379,726	4,392,830	4,355,450	4,392,830	Formula	5,471		3,470		0	54,485	4,450,785
Torquay Grammar School for Girls	3,781,334	366,795	4,148,129	4,113,398	4,148,129	Formula	5,465		4,818		0	52,375	4,205,322
TOTAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS	43,788,982	1,099,060	44,888,041	44,613,715	44,912,284	0		0	559,958	478,537	(48,097)	1,942,560	47,845,242
TOTAL PRIMARY & SECONDARY	86,559,864	1,872,976	88,432,839	87,362,176	88,691,355		Γ	2,204,184	2,206,696	795,631	(98,362)	6,228,890	100,028,393

SPECIAL SCHOOL FUNDING ALLOCATIONS 21/22

Type of Place	Number of agreed Places	Number of agreed Places	Number of Pupils	Funding Per Place	Per Pupil top-up above £10k	Place Funding	Pupil Funding	Other Funding	Total Funding
	Apr 21	Sep 21	Jan 21	£	£	£	£	£	£
Combe Pafford									
Autism	72	71	78	10,000	7,070	714,167	551,460		1,265,627
BESD 1	19	20	17	10,000	7,838	195,833	133,246		329,079
SLD	7	7	7	10,000	7,669	70,000	53,683		123,683
Hearing	2	2	2	10,000	7,499	20,000	14,998		34,998
MLD 1	47	47	42	10,000	759	470,000	31,878		501,878
MLD 2	37	38	35	10,000	1,931	375,833	67,585		443,418
MLD 3	31	31	30	10,000	3,496	310,000	104,880		414,880
PD	13	12	13	10,000	7,070	124,167	91,910		216,077
SpecLD	2	1	3	10,000	3,412	14,167	10,236		24,403
SLCN	31	32	27	10,000	6,844	315,833	184,788		500,621
Visual	1	1	1	10,000	11,753	10,000	11,753		21,753
Additional funding for specific pupils								40,134	40,134
Funding previously paid as grant for Teachers Pay & Pen	sions (£660 per	place)						172,920	172,920
Pupil Premium	000		055			0 000 000	4 050 447	140,515	140,515
Totals	262	262	255			2,620,000	1,256,417	353,569	4,229,986
Mayfield & Chestnut									
PMLD	56	52	52	10,000	15,170	536,667	788,840		1,325,507
BESD1 - Chestnut	32	32	32	10,000	13,340	320,000	426,880		746,880
SLD	175	179	173	10,000	8,125	1,773,333	1,405,625		3,178,958
Outreach Service								210,060	210,060
Excluded Pupils / 6th day provision - April - Aug 21								47,500	47,500
Occombe House rent								31,614	31,614
Additional funding for specific pupils								71,198	71,198
Funding previously paid as grant for Teachers Pay & Pen	sions (£660 per	place)						173,580	173,580
Pupil Premium								168,830	168,830
Totals	263	263	257			2,630,000	2,621,345	702,782	5,954,127
Brunel & Burton									
Brunel - SEMH Pupils	56	56	50	10,000	15,801	560,000	790,050		1,350,050
Burton - Alternative Provision Pupils	55	55	50	10,000	11,545	550,000	577,250		1,127,250
Additional funding for specific pupils				,	,	,		60,270	60,270
Funding previously paid as grant for Teachers Pay & Pen	sions (£660 per	place)						73,260	73,260
Pupil Premium	、 ·	. ,						67,805	67,805
Totals	111	111	100			1,110,000	1,367,300	201,335	2,678,635
Overall Totals	636	636	612			6,360,000	5,245,062	1,257,686	12,862,748
	000	0.50	012		I	0,000,000	0,270,002	1,201,000	12,002,140

Agenda Item 5 Appendix 1

Dedicated Schools Grant 'Safety Valve' Agreement - Published by the DFE on Friday 19th March 2021

Local Authority	DSG Deficit	Profile	Authority actions	DFE/EFSA investment
Page 14	be achieved 2022 – 2023 subsequent control and cumulative of follows:- Year f 2020 – 2 2021 – 2 2022 – 2 2022 – 2 2023 – 2 2024 – 2	reduce	 3.1 Strengthen their Special Educational Needs assessment and placements process, including clarifying assessment thresholds for Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) by March 2022. This should include reviewing transition arrangements for children and young people throughout 2021-22. 3.2. Ensure robust planning for future provision, including reducing the use of independent school placements by increasing the availability and suitability of local provision within Bury. This should include developing a model for forecasting future needs by March 2022. 3.3. Improve quality and timeliness of management information to enable evaluation of impact of central services. 3.4. Support and drive schools in Bury to meet a higher level of need in a more cost effective way within mainstream settings, while maintaining the quality of provision. Develop a culture in which demand is more effectively managed throughout the authority. 3.5. Remodel financial practice to ensure accurate contributions from appropriate funding sources, by December 2021. 	The Department agrees to pay to the authority an additional £6 million of DSG before the end of the financial year 2020-21. In subsequent financial years, subject to compliance with the conditions set out in paragraphs 2 and 3, the Department will pay DSG sums as follows in addition to the authority's formulaic allocation £4 million in 2021-22, £4 million in 2022-23, £3 million in 2023-24 and £3 million in 2024-25. This funding will be provided in instalments and subject to continued satisfactory progress. Subject to full compliance, Bury should therefore eliminate their cumulative deficit no later than 2024-25.

20/21 cumulative DSG deficit £25.5m

14.35% of total 20/21 DSG allocation

Forecast DSG Deficit Profile at year end £m3.3. Review and reform of the Alternative Provision (AP) model and funding to create efficiencies from 2021-22.2021-22, f4 million in 2 2023-24 and f3 million funding will be provided subject to continued sat Subject to full complian Fulham should therefor cumulative deficit no lat The Department will ser relating to capital plans Fulham in 2021-22. ThisThe Department will ser relating to capital plans Fulham in 2021-22. This3.5. Review and reform of outreach services to create savings2021-22, f4 million in 2 2023-24 and f3 million funding will be provided subject to continued sat Subject to full complian Fulham should therefor cumulative deficit no lat The Department will ser relating to capital plans Fulham in 2021-22. This	TO DOV/ TO TOO OUT			
YearMaximum Forecast DSG Deficit Profile at year end £mIimited to the creation by September 2021 of a speech, language and communication needs offer for children and young people on SEND support, to reduce escalation of need to Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) level.of the financial year 2022 financial years, subject to satisfactory progress wi out in paragraphs 2 and pay DSG sums as follow authority's formulaic all 2021-22, £4 million in 2 2023-24 and £3 million funding to create efficiencies from 2021-22.2020 -22.9 20212021 -23.3 20222022 -23.0 20232022 -23.0 20232023 -23.0 20232024 -23.0 20232025 -23.0 20232026 -23.0 20232021 -23.0 20232022 -23.0 20232023 -23.0 20232024 -23.0 20232025 -23.0 20232026 -25. Review and reform of outreach services to create saving				
YearMaximum Forecast DSG Deficit Profile at year end £mSolution for fmSolution for for fmSolution for 				
VeryMaximum Forecast DSG Deficit Profile at year end £mYoung people on SEND support, to reduce escalation of need to Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) level.satisfactory progress wi out in paragraphs 2 and pay DSG sums as follow authority's formulaic all 2021-22, £4 million in 2 2023-24 and £3 million funding to create efficiencies from 2021-22.2020 -22.9 20213.4. Support and drive schools in Hammersmith and Fulham to meet a higher level of need in a more cost effective way within mainstream settings, while maintaining the quality of provision.Subject to full complian Fulham should therefor cumulative deficit no lat The Department will ser relating to capital plans Fulham in 2021-22. This	-			
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2023 3.5. Review and reform of outreach services to create savings Fulham in 2021-22. This				
	Fulham in 2021-22. This commission will see			
	ority's future plans fo			
בניין 2023 בניין לראב לא 2023 ביין דראב לא 2021 - 22. לע ביין 100	•			
2024 - 21.9 3.6. Implementation of a case management system to pupils with SEND and fo				
2025 facilitate predictive modelling. focusing on projects wh	ich support wider			
2025 – 20.0 deficit reduction aims.				
2026				

20/21 cumulative DSG deficit £22.9m

15.11% of total 20/21 DSG allocation

Kingston upon Thames	be achiev 2024 - 20 subseque control ar	n year balance to ed by the end of 25 and in each nt year. Take nd reduce ve deficit as	 3.1. Improve support available in schools to manage demand more effectively and reduce escalation of need. 3.2. Expand specialist provision to avoid placements in more expensive Non-Maintained Special Schools and independent special schools. 3.3. Manage demand for Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) by scrutinising provision at each annual review and 	The Department agrees to pay to the authority an additional £9 million of DSG before the end of the financial year 2020-21. In subsequent financial years, subject to compliance and satisfactory progress with the conditions set out in paragraphs 2 and 3, the Department will pay DSG sums as follows
Page 16	Year 2020 – 2021 2021 – 2022 2022 – 2023 2023 – 2024	Maximum Forecast DSG Deficit Profile at year end £m 25.1 28.6 31.4 32.2	 continuing to work with consultants Mastodon C to forecast and manage growth during 2021-22. 3.4. Improve efficiency of commissioning services to drive down cost. 3.5. Increase contributions from health and social care. 3.6. Commission an Local Government Association (LGA) peer review and implement any recommendations arising from it which drive sustainability in their high needs system. 	in addition to the authority's formulaic allocation: £5 million in 2021-22, £5 million in 2022-23, £5 million in 2023-24 and £3 million in 2024-25. This funding will be provided in instalments and be subject to continued satisfactory progress. In addition, the Department is no longer seeking repayment of the £3m advance of DSG that was made for 2018-19. Subject to full compliance, Kingston should eliminate their cumulative deficit by 2025-26.
	2024 - 2025 2025 - 2026	31.6	3.8. Contribute to the reduction of the cumulative deficit via alternative council funding sources in each financial year covered by this agreement.	The Department will send a commission relating to capital plans to Kingston in 2021- 22. This commission will seek to understand the authority's future plans for capital investment in new school places for pupils with special educational needs (SEND) and for those requiring alternative provision (AP), focusing on projects which support wider deficit reduction aims.
20/21 DSG allo Total DSG £148 20/21 cumulati	3.043m.		8m, Central school services block £1.062m, High Needs Block £23. 16.95% of total 20/21 DSG allocation	

Richmond Upon Thames	Positive in year balance to be achieved by the end of 2025 - 2026 and in each subsequent year. Take control and reduce cumulative deficit as follows:-		 3.1 Improve support available in schools to manage demand more effectively and reduce escalation of need. 3.2. Expand specialist provision to avoid placements in more expensive Non-Maintained Special Schools and independent special schools. 	The Department agrees to pay to the authority an additional £6 million of DSG before the end of the financial year 2020-21. In subsequent financial years, subject to compliance and satisfactory progress with the conditions set out in paragraphs 2 and 3, the Department will pay DSG sums as follows in addition to the	
Page 17	Year 2020 - 2021 - 2022 - 2023 - 2023 - 2024 - 2025	Maximum Forecast DSG Deficit Profile at year end £m 17.6 18.6 19.4 19.9 20	 3.3. Manage demand for Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) by scrutinising provision at each annual review and continuing to work with consultants Mastodon C to forecast and manage EHCP growth during 2021-22. 3.4. Improve efficiency of commissioning services to drive down cost. 3.5. Increase contributions from health and social care. 3.6. If recommendations arise from the Local Government Association (LGA) peer review in Kingston which are also relevant to Achieving for Children's activities in Richmond, Richmond will also implement them. 3.7. Reforming of the authority's post-16 offer, including but not limited to development of new provision. 	authority's formulaic allocation: £4 million in 2021-22, £4 million in 2022-23, £3 million in 2023-24 and £3 million in 2024-25. This funding will be provided in instalments and subject to continued satisfactory progress. Subject to full compliance, Richmond should therefore eliminate their cumulative deficit no later than 2024-25. The Department will send a commission relating to capital plans to Richmond in 2021- 22. This commission will seek to understand the authority's future plans for capital investment in new school places for pupils with special educational needs (SEND) and for those requiring alternative provision (AP), focusing on projects which support wider deficit reduction aims.	
Total DSG £165	.906m.		7m, Central school services block £924km, High Needs Block £27.	869m, Early Years Block £15.176m,	
20/21 cumulati	20/21 cumulative DSG deficit £17.6m 10.61% of total 20/21 DSG allocation				

Stoke on Trent	Positive in year balance to be achieved by the end of 2021 - 2022 and in each subsequent year. Take 		 3.1. Reduce the authority's use of independent school places by increasing the availability and suitability of local provision, beginning in 2021-22 and continuing throughout the period of the agreement. 3.2. Review and reform of the 'Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) offer' with all planned action completed no later than the end of 2022-23. 3.3. Development of a Transition Action Plan by September 2021. 	The Department agrees to pay to the authority an additional £3 million of DSG before the end of the financial year 2020-21. In subsequent financial years, subject to compliance and satisfactory progress with the conditions set out in paragraphs 2 and 3, the Department will pay DSG sums as follows in addition to the authority's formulaic allocation: £3 million in 2021-22, £2 million in 2022-23 and £2 million in 2023-24. This funding will be provided in
Page 18	2020 – 2021 2021 – 2022 2022 – 2023 2023 – 2024	Deficit Profile at year end £m 25.5 24.3 18.3 9.13	 3.4. Review and reform early years pathways, including implementing a new early years offer from September 2021. 3.5. Support and drive schools in Stoke-on-Trent to meet a higher level of need in a more cost effective way within mainstream settings, while maintaining the quality of provision. This includes recruiting a dedicated Strategic Manager in 2021. 3.6. Reform commissioning practices to address sufficiency problems. 3.7. Reform post-16 offer from 2021 onwards including but not limited to development of new provision and establishment of a review cycle. New provision should largely be in place during the 2021/22 academic year. 3.8. Improve financial planning and collaboration with other funding streams. 	instalments and subject to continued satisfactory progress. Subject to full compliance, Stoke-on-Trent should therefore eliminate their cumulative deficit no later than 2023-24. The Department will send a commission relating to capital plans to Stoke-on-Trent in 2021-22. This commission will seek to understand the authority's future plans for capital investment in new school places for pupils with special educational needs (SEND) and for those requiring alternative provision (AP), focusing on projects which support wider deficit reduction aims
20/21 DSG allocation – School block £178.994m, Central school services block £4.562m, High Needs Block £37.059m, Early Years Block £18.288m, Total DSG £238.903m.				
20/21 cumulative DSG deficit £25.5m			10.67% of total 20/21 DSG allocation	

Torbay's position is:

20/21 DSG allocation

School block £83.029m Central school services block £1.214m High Needs Block £19.123m Early Years Block £6.944m, Total DSG £110.310m.

20/21 forecast cumulative DSG deficit £5.819m

5.28% of total 20/21 DSG allocation

Higher Needs Group Update 6th May 2021

Introduction

The Higher Needs Recovery Group has reconvened and held two meetings. The minutes of the group are attached for School Forum Members information. This report is brought to forum to show the work that is being conducted and to ensure that the School Forum is assured by the direction of travel of the group.

The Higher Needs Recovery Group was established to review actions within the recovery plan and proactively work alongside School Forum to identify any further opportunities for change and reduction in spend.

Work that has been conducted against the recovery plan and next steps

The following overview shows the progress that is being made against each agreed action. **Strengthening an inclusive and accountable culture**

Action required	Progress to date	Where next?	RAG Rating
Establishment of a Peer to Peer Challenge system	The secondary peer to peer challenge group is well established with regular attendees. The group are pro-actively trying to seek solutions for young people that have vulnerabilities by the use of managed moves and support packages. Young people are being flagged at an earlier opportunity for behavioural needs, allowing a greater amount of planning. It is difficult during this academic year to measure comparator data for exclusions and fixed term exclusions due to the nature of attendance during the pandemic. Managed moves are being used as a successful means of preventing exclusions. They are being overseen by the Pupil Referral Panel and reviewed and managed through the Secondary Peer Group. 3 Managed Transfers have been used to prevent Permanent Exclusions. All 3 have been successful to date, 5 Permanent Exclusions have been prevented by early work between schools, the SEN team and the Vulnerable Pupils team. 4 of these continue to be successful and one failed as the parents and child effused to attend the new setting.	Sharing of data (once available) on exclusions, managed moves back with Heads Forums (Currently shared at the Local Education Board) Primary zero exclusion project	

	Annual reviews are being better used to establish whether an EHCP can be amended to better meet need and maintain a mainstream school place. Strong evidence of focused work on vulnerable children throughout the pandemic conducted by all schools with a high percentage of vulnerable and SEND pupils still attending throughout all phases of lockdown.		
Revision of the Fair Access Protocol	The Fair Access Protocol has been revised to better meet the needs of vulnerable students and to clarify the circumstances under which the school can make a fair access representation. This has been used for over 18 months and further versions have been consulted upon and adopted.	Keep under review	
Providing independent advice to parents	The service has been commissioned and operational. The service started in January 2020 so has not had a normal year to operate. The service resources were diverted to support a wider range of children and families struggling with Covid related anxiety. Now that the service has returned to its core role, 57 families have been supported with advice about potential exclusions. 19 have received a wider needs assessment leading to support from the Imagine This partnership and/or Early Help.	The service resumed from March 2021 and will be monitored against normal KPIs this year. Staff are moving from a mediation to a solution focussed delivery model to empower all parties and increase the capacity of the service.	
Providing training and information to governors – including an SEND Audit	SEND audits conducted in 100% of Schools and Colleges within Torbay (2019/2020) The audits show a good level of engagement and commitment to SEN children and an increased understanding	Local Authority Graduated Approach document to be updated and consulted upon.	

across leadership. The accountability framework for SEN pupils has improved since the previous audits.	
The findings of the audit demonstrate that more work is required on SEN Support and a common approach to inclusion. There is evidence of some very strong practice in some schools and MATS that needs to be shared.	
SENDCO network well attended and offered termly. Agenda is both LA and School informed and is driving forward key changes required. Strong evidence in Ofsted reports that schools are offering good SEND services.	

Ensuring children and young people have access to alternative and bespoke provision

Action	Progress to date	Next steps	Trajectory
required			
Exclusion recovery process	The mechanism for exclusion recovery have been adopted and are being used.	Debt recovery process being enacted	
Cost recovery for placements	Cost recovery activity is in place and invoices issued to schools.	EHE decision is being reviewed by School Forum	
Commissioned placement reductions	The commissioned placement costs are rising due to sector pricing and demand. Individual packages are being reviewed and stepped down where appropriate. The savings on individual packages range between £5 - £25k We are commissioning less out of area placements and using local based provisions where we have secured good value for money. The spend on packages in alternative providers has reduced and children are now taught within the area resource bases created. The commission framework for alternative providers has been fully redesigned and is heavily focused on safeguarding and outcomes. Where outcomes are strong block purchasing has started and this has helped to manage overall costs of placements.	Look at further block purchase opportunities to reduce costs or mitigate demand management.	

Alternative provision within our local area.	The STEPS provision continues to provide for children that have previously been taught in out of area provision or bespoke tutoring. The provision is being well managed by PCSA and there is ongoing work between the school and SEND team to ensure pupils needs can be met. The Post 16 Provision at SDC has been expanded to provide for six young people with considerable SEMH needs. Following a successful pilot year this has increased to include 8 young people. Sixth day provision for children excluded from Primary Schools has been enhanced and interim measures have been put in place to have a dedicated space away from Chestnut. The Post 16 Panel considers Post 16 requests for specialist provisions and high cost bespoke packages. The close scrutiny has enabled local providers to offer creative options which have resulted in better outcomes for students and value for money.	Continue to build upon the infrastructure of area resource bases.	
Appropriate contribution from health and social care.	Work has progressed with Health Colleagues to consider funding of children. An agreement has been reached between the Local Authority and Health Colleagues to jointly fund packages of support for children that do not meet the DST criteria but are requiring bespoke packages. A dedicated panel is established and meets frequently. We are assured that we are only providing the funding for education provision within all joint funded placements.	There will be further work with Health colleagues regarding use of Element 3 funding for health related support in schools.	

Ensuring the right children, achieve the right level of support, at the right cost

Action required	Progress to date	Next steps	Trajectory
Request for statutory assessment stemming demand	The requests for statutory assessments continues to grow, however the number of issued plans have remained consistent with the previous year. The panel has been challenging the need for an EHCP in a rigorous manner and giving advice where appropriate on how the needs of	Continue the rigorous challenge process around panel decision making.	

	 children and young people can be met through SEN support. The Early Help system and SEND process have been carefully considered to ensure that the right help can be given at the right time. The revised way of working in Early Help will be supportive of children not escalating to EHCP. The demand for EHCP reduced during the pandemic, however following the return of children to school in March 2021 the demand has increased significantly. Work is being conducted to consider if this is an ongoing need or a delay in referrals. 	Work with schools to predict the ongoing need emerging from the pandemic	
Element 3 top up and banding review.	Panel for decision making on the top up has been established. Monitoring officers have taken on the responsibility of allocating the funds to each plan and conducting work on the funding as part of the annual review. This has created greater consistency in the plans that have been reviewed but does not bring about the whole scale change.	The review of the banded funding mechanism has been delayed and will be a focus.	

Additional work progressed by the Higher Needs Recovery Group

The Higher Needs Recovery Group were asked by the School Forum to manage and help to produce the process of allocating Covid Intervention Funding. The group supported the Local Authority to create the criteria and the awarding process. The children and young people have now been identified and the money awarded to the School Forum has been provided for 115 pupils. An impact report on the work that the grant has supported will be received for each pupil/school in the week beginning the 28th June 2021.

Below is a summary of the criteria of children identified

Total number of children identified 115 Reason for identification

Not Returned	Displaying Anxiety Related to Covid
31	107

(some pupils have two or more identified need)

The total allocation of funding was Total = $\pounds249,895$ Primary Phase = $\pounds80,401$ Secondary Phase = $\pounds169,494$

Recommendations and decisions

- School Forum note the report and the minutes of the meetings.
- School Forum review the work that is proposed as next steps and agree if any additional work is requested of the Higher Needs Group

Rachael Williams

Assistant Director Education, Learning and Skills



Agenda Item 7 Appendix 1

Minutes of the Higher Needs Recovery Group

22 March 2021

-: Present :-

Brian Chapman, Mark Eager, Matt Gifford, Dorothy Hadleigh, Daniel Hamer, Ken Kies, Stephen Kings, Mike Lock, Samantha Meyer, Adam Morris, Rob Parr, Rachael Williams and Sandra Wright

(Also in attendance: Alex Howarth, Stuart Heron)

1. Welcome and Introductions

Stephen welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Siobhan Grady.

2. Minutes of last meeting

The Higher Needs Recovery Group minutes 27/9/20 were agreed to be a true record of the meeting.

3. Budget Position DSG

Rachael introduced two School Forum reports which show a breakdown of the projected position of the Local Area for 2020/21 and anticipated outturn for 2021/22. She said that the cumulative overspend of the DSG is now £3.778m. The ESFA attended a School Forum (SF) meeting to re-debate the deficit position for Torbay and clearly stated that the priority for SF and HNRG should be to work towards a balanced budget.

Members further discussed

- the possibility of the DfE writing off authorities, which despite their best efforts, will still not be able to pay off their historic deficit from the DSG over the next few years.
- Outcome of SEND review savings still unknown
- AP providers out of area reductions in out of area placement some savings have been made but due to the complexities of the young people's needs a substantial bespoke package has been necessary

No objections were raised at Rachael's suggestion to discuss item 5 revisit actions in HNRG plan next in order to focus on what we are going to do and when.

Rachael introduced the initial consultation document which outlined where budget reductions could be made.

Rachael summarised what has taken place and what has not:-

- Cultural Peer to Peer Challenge well established in secondary schools and has an impact in keeping children in mainstream school
- Fair Access Protocol updated version has been agreed
- Providing independent advice to parents service set up but progress has been hampered by the pandemic
- Providing training and information to governors a challenge to governors has taken place around SEN audits
- Access recovery funds for pupils who are permanently excluded or moving to bespoke alternative provision – SF have found this a challenge to implement so recoup of funds has been less than anticipated
- Joint health and social care funding process in place to ensure that education now only pay the education element of a package.
- Post 16 outcomes for Post 16 students have been improved and processes are in place to ensure that 19 year old students transfer to adult services.
- SEMH Primary Provision additional SEMH provision created at Mayfield's STEPS and Spires for children who are struggling to re-integrate into mainstream school
- Medical Tuition Service progress hampered by covid, and income target not as predicted

What has not taken place:-

 Reduction in requests for Statutory Assessments and issuing of EHCPs and Element 3 top up funding – there has been a recent reduction in requests for Statutory Assessment during the lockdown period, however, numbers have been rapidly rising since the start of the year. Stringent measures are in place to ensure that only pupils who truly warrant an EHCP are progressed. Identified historic legacy issues are ongoing

What we said we were going to do:-

- Deficit outturn position now worse than anticipated by £350k recognised by members that if previous actions had not been taken the position would have been much worse.
- ESFA will required evidence of what savings have been progressed
- Banding review review has not taken place

Dedicated Schools Grant Safety Valve Agreement

Members noted the contents of the report which highlighted other local authority's large deficit action plans to achieve a positive in year balance and take control of reducing their deficit. Torbay School Forum will be using the examples to progress it's own action plan and identify where additional savings can be made.

Rachael confirmed that she would find out about the EFSA safety value programme and how Torbay could be included in it.

4. Covid Prevention Funding

Rachael announced that Torbay Council have allocated £250k of the Covid fund to support the reintegration of children into their school on a short term basis. School Forum have agreed to delegate the responsibility to roll out of the funding to schools through the Higher Needs Recovery Group. The HNRG provide a progress/outcome report to School Forum in June 2021.

Members debated and discussed how best to manage the roll out of funds which would target the most vulnerable pupils.

Members considered the proposed principles of providing support and management of the process and were keen to effectively provide targeted support to children and young people quickly.

Members agreed that the targeted support should apply for pupils in Torbay who are:-

- on part time tables
- Displaying covid/return related anxiety not previously of concern
- Have not returned to school

Rachael agreed to identify the number of pupils who fall into this category and liaise with schools/academies to gain information on their particular need. Progress of roll out of funding will be reported at next meeting.

5. Revisit actions in Higher Needs Recovery Plan

Covered in item 3

6. Autism Education Trust

Stuart H and Dorothy asked for members views about headteacher's supporting further autism champion work following the successful roll out which benefitted all education settings. Staff previously trained as champions have moved on leaving a gap in this specialist skill. The number of pupils awaiting autism assessment continues to grow which is putting pressure on specialist placements.

Members noted that the current waiting time for autism assessment is over 2.5 years and asked for more information about developing a bespoke package of autism champion work through CPD.

It was agreed that Dorothy would find the original list of autism champions previously trained and share with headteachers the possibility of sharing expertise. Rachael will flag this with both TAPS and TASH.

7. Any Other Business

Next meeting agenda items: SEND Review and EFSA Safety Value programme

Stephen thanked everyone for their time in attending the meeting

Summary of actions	
Budget position DSG	Rachael to confirm how Torbay could
	be included in the EFSA safety value
	programme and feedback progress
Covid Prevention Funding	Rachael will identify the number of
	pupils who fall into the targeted support
	category and liaise with schools to gain
	information about their particular needs.
	Progress report on roll out of funding at
	next meeting
Autism	Dorothy to find the original list of autism
	champions and share with
	headteachers the possibility of sharing
	expertise. Rachael will flag this with
	both TAPS and TASH
Next meeting agenda items	SEND Review
	ESFSA Safety Value Programme
	Covid Prevention Funding progress
	report

Agenda Item 7 Appendix 2

TORBAY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Higher Needs Recovery Group

26 April 2021

Present

Mark Eager, Matt Gifford, Siobhan Grady, Dorothy Hadleigh Daniel Hamer, Steven Hulme, Ken Kies, Stephen Kings, Mike Lock, Patrick McCann, Samantha Meyer, Adam Morris, Liz Lawrence (For Alex Howarth) Rob Parr, Sue Kemp and Rachael Williams

> Not present Julie Chubb, Brian Chapman

1. Welcome and Introductions

Stephen welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Last minutes and action update

The HNRG minutes of 22/3/21 were agreed to be an accurate account of meeting. The Chair agreed that the actions were either completed or an agenda item today.

3. Update on ESFSA visit and Safety Valve Agreement

Rachael shared the ESFA Safety Valve Agreement and gave an overview on the current budget position presented to School Forum. She said the predicted overall budget was a deficit of £2.04m which is lower than the anticipated outturn of a deficit of £2.6m. This is attributed to additional Covid Prevention funding into the DSG and SEN service delays for statutory assessments.

Rachael reported that she has sought further information about those local authorities who have been offered a safety valve agreement. The mechanism for being awarded a safety valve agreement is not well understood or available. The work conducted indicates that authorities awarded an agreement had a deficit within the region of 10 - 15% of the DSG budget, Torbay's position is 5.6%.

An ESFA informal meeting is being held on 18th May when a plan will highlight the increase in demand which cannot be managed locally. It will be the request of the Local Authority that the ESFA work alongside Torbay to help achieve a balanced

budget and support us to achieve a safety valve agreement. It is the expectation of the EFSA that following the informal meeting the local area will need to submit their recovery plan within four weeks of the meeting.

Members supported the plans for the ESFA meeting.

Members noted that the SEN Review will be released in 2 to 3 weeks. Rachael raised the importance of this consultation and ensuring that we made good use of providing significant local evidence into the review.

4. Current situation with Requests for Statutory Assessments

Dorothy gave some contextual content on the current referrals for statutory assessment. Comparative data for new referrals show an increase in demand during January 32, February 38 and March 54 which has necessitated an increase in SEN Panel meetings to weekly instead of fortnightly.

The SEN team are proactively working with schools to ensure young people's needs are identified before their transitions in September and enabling appropriate staff to be recruited to support level of need.

Members noted the increased demand for all partner agencies to submit their reports back within the statutory timescales.

It was suggested that a piece of work is conducted to understand the likely trajectory of referrals from SENDCO's. This will be actioned at the SENDCO network.

The group also noted the impact on post 16 pupils unable to move into apprenticeships/employment and opting to stay in further education.

5. Update on Covid Prevention Funding and allocation of money

Dan reported that School Forum have delegated the responsibility to roll out £250k Covid Funding to the HNRG. 25 schools have responded within the deadline to access funding for those pupils who fall within the criteria, however, some schools have not responded. These schools will be chased for a response.

He asked that the HNRG consider which option should be adopted when distributing the funding.

- Option 1 Funding is allocated equally for each child and passed to schools
- Option 2 Funding is weighted so that children who meet more than one criteria receive funding for each criteria met
- Option 3 Funding is weighted but a child must be identified as meeting 2 or more criteria

Members discussed each option and unanimously agreed that option 2 was the preferred option.

All schools will be given the opportunity to apply by tomorrow. The funding window will then be closed and the funds will be immediately allocated to those schools that have responded.

6. Improvements in commissioning with the Alternative Provider sector

Donna Frost joined the meeting and introduced herself as the Education Safeguarding Officer.

She outlined the Quality Assurance Framework for Alternative Provision which have been designed to provide additional safeguarding and quality markers for providers that are used. These are being completed by providers. She said this was necessary to provide a tool to enable Torbay Council Education Services to monitor the quality, leadership and delivery of alternative provision for school age pupils. The QA process will include visiting each provider in April 21 – August 21 where the audit will be discussed and advice, guidance updates provided. Providers that have completed the audit will be the only providers used by the local authority. Review mechanisms are built into the process and this will happen on a yearly basis.

Members thanked Donna for her very helpful work.

Rachael outlined the importance of this work in enabling us to move forward with block commissioning of placements.

7. Update on Primary Zero Exclusions work

Dan reported that this work has now been reconvened post the pandemic. Work has started with Paignton and Brixham Headteachers. There has also been a group started in Torquay. The TDA are working with us to consider the viability of using the Polsham site as a primary hub. Next steps include – establishing the model of support, planning the interventions and associated budget and creating a referral board and mechanism.

Rachael explained that this will not cause a budget pressure but will use existing resources differently.

8. Mediation extension of contract

Dan reported that the service had been commissioned and operational prior to Covid, however their support was diverted to support children and families struggling with Covid related anxiety. Service resumed in March 2021 and will be monitoring against normal KPIs this year. 57 families have been supported with advice about potential exclusions since the service has returned to its original role.

9. Proposals regarding EHE re-charge prior to School Forum

Dan explained that the EHE recharge was discussed at School Forum following a concern that was raised. School Forum tasked Dan Hamer and Alex Newton to work on a proposed new model. This was presented to the group for consideration.

This was discussed the HNRG were in agreement with the proposal.

The HNRG endorsed the charging of schools for historic alternative provision.

10. Autism Champions Work

Dorothy updated everyone on the current staff who have autism experience. Of the 24 staff trained in 2017 only six remain in post locally. Staff have either left or have promoted to another job.

Members recognised that the initial investment by schools to purchase autism expertise was considerable and that a more sustainable solution should be explored. This could involve the teaching schools CPD offer of free bi- annual training.

Rachael asked Siobhan if there was any health funding available as part of the autism work streams being developed. Siobhan will confirm and feedback to the group.

Dorothy will take forward a conversation to see if the work of the teaching schools can be linked to the autism training being proposed.

11. Any Other Business

Dorothy asked members to be mindful of the changes to funding for post 18 students with EHCP who were previously a care experienced. This will include students who have been placed in Torbay from other authorities.

Rachael thanked Patrick McCann for his contribution to this group. Becky Thompson will be his replacement and will be attending the meetings in the future.

Siobhan will share the team changes when they are known and highlighted the work progressing to monitor each health waiting list through a national integrated care system.

ESFA and Safety Value Agreement	Rachael to feedback outcome of the meeting with ESFA at the next meeting		
Covid Prevention Funding	Dan to give update on funding allocation to schools at next meeting		
EHE recharge	Dan to give update on those schools who have been charged for provision for alternative provision		
Autism Champions Work	Siobhan to feedback on funding opportunities through Health.		
	Dorothy to explore CPD through the teaching schools for autism training		
Any Other Business	Becky Thompson to be invited to future meetings		

TORBAY COUNCIL

Early Years Funding Update 6th May 2021

Introduction

At our previous School Forum meeting we discussed in depth Early Years funding. At this time there was information that Officers were unable to confirm as national policy was not published. We have now received this information and the paper outlines the decisions that have been taken

Early Years Funding Update

Early Years funding will operate differently for the calendar year 2021 and adjustments for the financial year 2020-2021 will also be allocated in a different way. Below are slides issued by the Department for Education regarding the planned financial process for the financial year 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.





Termly data collection

- We will ask LAs to submit data from their 'local' 2021 summer and autumn counts to the Department, to determine the funding allocations in each of those terms.
- The spring term 2022 would be funded as usual using the Jan-22 census.
- Note we intend to use the same 2021 summer term count data for determining both the 2021 spring term top-up (for FY 2020-21) and the summer term allocation (for FY 2021-22). As mentioned earlier, we will use a scaled version of the summer term count to represent the increase in spring term attendance, and the full summer term count data to represent the summer attendance. Therefore, local authorities do not need to submit different datasets in order to finalise the spring and summer term allocations.

Key dates

Summer term 2021 data:

Summer census week - week commencing 17 May 2021

Data return deadline - 19 July 2021

Autumn term 2021 data:

Autumn census week - week commencing 4 October 2021

Data return deadline - 13 December 2021

How is the final funding allocation for 2021-22 calculated

Department

Department

Department

- The final EY funding allocations for 2021-22 will be based on the following:
 - 5/12th of the May 2021 count PTE numbers (to cover the April 2021 to August 2021 period), plus
 - 4/12th of the October 2021 count PTE numbers (to cover the September 2021 to December 2021 period); plus
 - 3/12th of the January 2022 census PTE numbers (to cover the January 2022 to March 2022 period)
- The adjustments for the summer and autumn terms will be announced in January 2022, and the final funding allocation for 2021-22 announced in July 2022 as normal.

How this affects Torbay

3-4 year old Universal hours		3-4 year old Extended hours		2 year old entitlement	
Jan 2020 PTEs	85% of Jan 2020 PTEs	Jan 2020 PTEs	85% of Jan 2020 PTEs	Jan 2020 PTEs	85% of Jan 2020 PTEs
1,677	1,425	618	525	361	307
2021 numbers					
	1,597.3		621.64		293.22
Lower or higher than 85%?	HIGHER		HIGHER		LOWER

From this it is evident that the 3 and 4 year old universal and extended entitlements are above 85% of the January 2020 census numbers, so no adjustment will be made to these.

The 2 year old numbers are below 85%, so Torbay's numbers will be adjusted. The adjustment will not be known until the LA's headcount is submitted to the ESFA in the summer term; this will be submitted in June/July.

Sarah White Early Years Finance Lead

Agenda Item 9

PROPOSAL FOR MONITORING AND SUPPORTING SCHOOLS, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AROUND ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION (EHE)

THE CURRENT SITUATION

In 2019 the School Forum consulted on a range of measures intended to address the pressures on the High Needs Block. One of the measures adopted was the charging of schools for children who leave schools for elective home education.

This charging is made at the minimum funding level per child and any personalised funding such as, Pupil Premium, EAL and low attainment funding.

Charging is calculated over the academic year and is invoiced termly, with the funding determined at a weekly rate pro rata. Schools Forum also made a decision to charge at 50% for those children likely to have become EHE as a reaction to the pandemic.

The charging currently draws in approximately £76,000 per term before the 50% is applied.

The number of families choosing EHE has dropped markedly with 370+ individual children reducing to 205 before the first lockdown.

REPRESENTATION

The Local Authority received a representation from The Spires College, and asked if this could be shared at Schools Forum. TSC thus consulted with secondary peers across Torbay in order to present a representative view to Schools Forum.

This representation outlined the following concerns:

- 1. That the charging was unfair in that it removed funding from schools whilst other children were then admitted into a now unfunded place.
- 2. Parents have a right to electively home educate and school cannot prevent this.
- 3. The lag in census funding means a charge may be made against a place that is already unfunded.
- 4. A blanket approach as a means of culture change is unfair to those schools who already seek to reduce EHE off rolling.
- 5. EHE often becomes a pattern for some families and the current approach provides a disincentive to schools admitting students with a history of EHE.

The details of this discussion are in the March 2021 Schools Forum minutes.

PROPOSAL

As a result, the Head of Service (Vulnerable Pupils) and the Principal at The Spires College have met and propose the following:

- 1. Charging ceases as a matter of course for EHE.
- 2. A meeting between the EHE team and the parent(s)/carer(s) takes place **before** a child is removed from roll, rather than afterwards.

- 3. If an alternative provision becomes necessary for a child who has moved to EHE (because EHE is not appropriate and a school place cannot be allocated), the school will retain funding responsibility for alternative provision for the remainder of the academic year.
- 4. This provision will be determined by the Vulnerable Pupils team.
- 5. There will be a maximum liability to be determined by the School Forum. (Suggest up to the funding allocation for that child.)
- 6. Charging will be termly across the academic year.
- 7. If the child joined a school and left between censuses then these places will not be charged.

This will be supported by a standing TAPS and TASH agenda item for a termly discussion of a report created by the Local Authority. This report will include;

- a. Movement between schools in year
- b. Movement to and from EHE
- c. PRP placements under the fair access protocol

In this way it is hoped that the peers will be able to work together in this arena to maintain an inclusive culture.

RECOMMENDATION

That schools forum:

- 1. Agree to cease charging using the current methodology
- 2. Direct officers to charge for provision for necessary alternative provision
- 3. Agree a maximum liability for any one case
- 4. Note the process for families considering EHE

Communication Breakdown or Perceived Likelihood of EHE

Referral to Mediation Service

Parent Chooses EHE

Parent writes to school to indicate intention to EHE

School sends standard Torbay letter requesting parents meet EHEO before leaving school roll to remove risk of losing their place.

EHEO Meets with family and ascertains reasons for choosing EHE and make preliminary assessment,

Final Decis Page 39arent

LA conducts partner agency checks with Social Care and Exploitation Teams. Check with SEN team if EHCP/Special School